

Pam. Home missions

Home Missions Council



# PORTS OF ENTRY MISSIONARY HERALD

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*THE one institution in America  
most gravely concerned with the  
coming and staying of the Immigrant  
is the Protestant Church*

*EDWARD A. STEINER*

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# Ports of Entry Missionary Herald

ISSUED BY

The Joint Committee of Six

REPRESENTING

THE HOME MISSIONS COUNCIL

AND

THE COUNCIL OF WOMEN FOR HOME MISSIONS

Room 713, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York



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AT THE RAILROAD TICKET OFFICE,  
ELLIS ISLAND

# Ports of Entry

**S**CARCELY any other three words form a phrase freighted with meaning so vital to our national life. Here is the convergence of streams of humanity flowing from the ends of the world. Through these gateways more than 33,000,000 aliens have come to our shores. Much that they have brought has been antagonistic to the spirit and purpose of our institutions, but their great contribution has been the world's wealth of physical strength, intellectual power, spiritual vigor, religious fervor and the incarnation of the yearning passion of the soul for liberty and life. It is our duty to recognize the value of their offering in terms of manhood and womanhood and not merely in terms of finance and business, and to so discharge the responsibility involved in opening our gates, as to help them to properly appreciate their privilege and opportunity, and to make possible the realization of their ideals.

Dr. Steiner says, "It is a big task, the biggest and most difficult and yet most rewarding task the Church has to face."

## The Immigrant's Welcome

The Federal authorities endeavor to receive the immigrant with a genuinely humane welcome. Some of our ports have not buildings properly equipped for receiving and examining immigrants and caring for the detained. Occasionally there are rumors of instances of harsh treatment on the part of the Government. For some of these there is doubtless occasion, but one who has the opportunity to see the Ports of Entry service in all its phases through a series of months, will be convinced that honesty, carefulness and kindness characterize the method and manner of the Government officials and employees, and that nowhere else is the immigrant received more humanely and treated more kindly and courteously than at our Ports of Entry.

Dr. Frederic C. Howe, Commissioner of Immigration at the Port of New York, recently said, "Ellis Island is public property and those of us who are over there are public servants. We have made provisions at Ellis Island so that every man, woman or child in the United States can participate in its administration. We did that through inviting suggestions, criticisms, complaints. We believe the best curative of disease is sunlight, and the sunlight that we are aiming to turn on Ellis Island is the sunlight of as many human eyes as will turn themselves on that station with their suggestions or complaints. I invite you to come to Ellis Island, to see the station and to examine it, to meet your friends and to aid the six hundred men over there in the Government employ in making Ellis Island a place we all love."

## Our Missionaries

No part of the immigrant welcome service is more important than that which is done by the missionaries. Their purpose is primarily to carry the gospel story of salvation and good cheer. "Behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy" is the message of the Ports of Entry missionary. This work, however, combines regard for spiritual life and material welfare. It must be humanitarian and philanthropic service of a very practical sort. It is the cup of water "In His name" given with the personal touch of one of His disciples.

On page 18 will be found a list of other Societies and Organizations engaged in this immigrant welcome service.

### The Home Missions Council and Council of Women for Home Missions

At the annual meeting, January 12, 1915, the Committee on Immigrant Work reported—"We are confirmed by Dr. Selden's brief study and by all that we have seen and heard during the year in the opinion expressed in our last report, as follows:

"If the Council desires to do the far-visioned thing, based on the broad and stable principles which should govern the King's business, let it lay hands upon the strongest available man and put him at the task of inquiry, of leadership, of unification, of inspiration, beginning at the **port of entry** and gradually extending his knowledge and influence until he stands at the center of the whole field of our service in alien tongues."

"We do not, however, venture at this time to suggest a program so elaborate nor a task so comprehensive for the Council's representative. We review in effect our recommendation of last year that the Council proceed conservatively and that effort for the coming year be limited in the main to the *ports of entry*. The relatively small volume of immigration now coming in, while making less immediate demands upon us, affords peculiar advantages for study of the problems involved, for conference with Government officials, and for development, readjustment and organization of the missionary force. At the end of a year of inquiry and effort along these lines, having all the time in view the larger field of our work across the country, your Committee hopes to be able to report substantial progress and to suggest how further to profit by the ground gained in the inquiries of last year and the year to come."

"Your Committee is glad to be able to announce that the Council of Women for Home Missions has been increasingly interested in the matter under discussion and has recommended to its constituent bodies that they assume one-third of the expense of any plan adopted for the coming year."



At this meeting the following recommendation of the Business Committee was adopted, "That the Council, in cooperation with the Council of Women for Home Missions, ask the Rev. Joseph E. Perry, Ph.D., to act as representative of the two Councils at ports of entry, for the year beginning January 15, 1915."

The task of directing the work of the representative of the two Councils at the Ports of Entry was given to a "Committee of Six" composed of three persons chosen from the "Immigrant Work Committee" of the Home Missions Council, and three from the "Committee of Missionary Interests Among the Immigrants" of the Council of Women.

In accordance with the policy and program proposed by the "Committee of Six" the time of the secretary was spent mainly in touch with the missionary work and workers at the Ports of Entry in Philadelphia, Boston and Ellis Island. Conferences were held with representatives of the Federal Government and agents and workers of various societies working with the Immigrant, including the Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners at the Ports mentioned, Mr. Green of the Federal Information Bureau, representatives of the Y. M. C. A., and Y. W. C. A. City and International Committees, the W. C. T. U., the Committee for Immigrants of America, the North American Civic League, the Travelers' Aid, the Immigrant Guide and Transfer Agency, and with missionaries working at these Ports.

These interviews and conferences revealed:

1. The fact that organization and cooperation in this work is almost universally regarded as essential to the permanent establishment of any large service for the Immigrant, and especially is this true of the missionary work. It is quite generally regarded that lack of system is a great hindrance to the comprehensive effectiveness of this very important phase of the service rendered for the arriving Immigrant.

2. All other Societies and Agencies have rather definitely systematized their work. This fact appeals to the Government officials and enables these Societies to have recognition and consideration by Federal and Municipal authorities and other agencies interested in the formation of any comprehensive scheme for the protection of the Immigrant.

3. In every Port the officials bear fine testimony to the very useful service rendered by the Christian missionaries. But even so their estimate is based on the **social** and **humanitarian** side of the work, and not on the **spiritual** phase of their service.

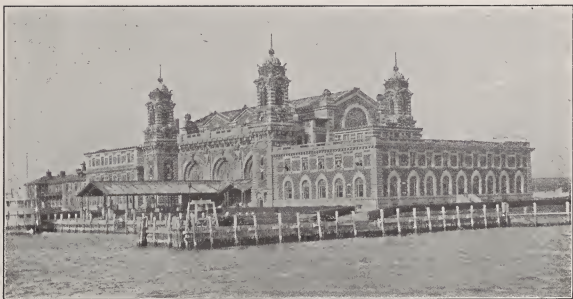
4. If the Christian missionaries and the religious workers were withdrawn from this service at the Ports of Entry, it would be like withdrawing the sun from the heavens.

The activities involved in this service are as varied as the duties of a missionary in any other field of work. They must clothe the

naked, visit the sick, comfort the sorrowing, cheer the despondent, give courage to the hesitating, frightened stranger, care for the dying, and sometimes minister at the burial service. They read to the illiterate, write letters and supply papers and literature. Indeed, they must be voice, ears, hands and feet; even heart and soul to hundreds and thousands of these children from the old world, now babes in a new life.

The true spirit of harmony, brotherly kindness, and heart sympathy filled with the spirit of power of Christian love, characterizes their work. Nothing else could fulfil its mission. It is also very evident that the full potential value of this work has not yet been actualized. This part of the missionary service of the Christian Church may be made a much more forceful and fruitful agency in the work of the Kingdom. It ought to be a source and center of greater power in the **Home missionary** work of our entire country, and can be made an agency of power in our **Foreign missionary** work. To realize the full measure of the possible power and usefulness of this branch of missionary work, is the central purpose of our task. To accomplish this purpose it was evident that our missionary work should be organized in some comprehensive and definite scheme that would unite practically all the religious forces and represent to the immigrant the heart and spirit of American Christian sentiment, and that would combine in a practical way the work of all Ports of Entry, and also vitally relate this work to all immigrant work inland, aiding and being supplemented by such work. In this way also our missionary work could be related readily to all civic and philanthropic immigrant work in any city or community. The adoption of such plan, because of its being interdenominational in principle and having unselfish ideals, and being practical and comprehensive in its working, would commend itself to the Federal, Civic and Municipal Government authorities. It will commend itself also to the religious communities and societies for the same reasons, and also because of a possible lessening of expense, and of securing larger and more permanent results for the effort and money expended.

A plan of organization was presented by the secretary to the Committee of Six, which was adopted by them and referred to the missionaries at Ellis Island for their consideration. This proposition provided for the appointment of certain committees on the different departments of the missionary work, and for conferences of workers and for relating the work to that of other Ports of Entry, and for uniting the port missionary work to the missionary work inland.



## Ellis Island

THE center of the year's work has been Ellis Island, the great home and foreign mission field, in area covering a few acres, in influence compassing the entire world. Any one with ability to "sense" a condition standing at Ellis Island feels himself to be not at the "hub of the universe," but at the heart of the world, through which are circulating the life currents of the old world and the new. More than one-half of those coming to our shores enter by this gateway. Here is the beginning of the preparation of this great mass of humanity for the process of assimilation into the American spirit and life.

The missionaries at Ellis Island adopted the plan of organization approved by the Committee of Six, and appointed the committees provided for. The operation of this plan has been very satisfactory considering all that is involved. The Committees are organized and reports from some of them are given in the following pages.

There are now twenty-five missionaries and workers representing the Boards and Societies federated with the two Councils, and other Societies cooperating in the work of federating the religious forces in this branch of missionary service. The field of service and the activities of the missionaries at Ellis Island is typical of all Ports of Entry missionary work.

The field of this ministry is:

(a) The railroad rooms. Here quick work must be done. It is just touch and go. The missionaries of our Societies, the American Tract Society, the New York Bible Society, the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., W. C. T. U., and kindred agencies do most excellent service.

(b) Among the detained Immigrants. This is a field of varied service and is perhaps the place of greatest opportunity for our missionaries and is specifically their field.

(c) The hospital. This is a very important part of the work for, and with, those who are detained. Of course, there is need of temporal relief and comforts, but here especially there are times when no one can minister except one who brings spiritual comfort and the cheer of the love of God.

## Missionary Activities

**T**HE missionaries at our Ports meet and aid representatives of the following nationalities, viz.: English, Irish, Scotch, Welsh, French, Swiss, German, Dutch, Belgian, Hebrews of various nations, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Austrian, Greek, Turkish, Armenian, Bulgarian, Servian, Roumanian, Albanian, Hungarian, Bohemian, Croatian, Slovenian, Ruthenian, Lithuanian, Russian, Polish, Mexican, Cuban, and other West Indian, Panamanian, Venezuelan, Columbian, Argentinian, Australian, Maltese, West African, Egyptian, Syrian, Persian, Hindu, Chaldean, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean,—in all, 52.

Visitors to Ellis Island often ask, "Just what do the missionaries do?" The Rev. Eliot White, Port Chaplain of the Protestant Episcopal City Mission Society, gives the following answer to this query:

We meet those newly coming from the ocean steamers to Ellis Island, and less frequently, second-cabin passengers at the docks. We aid them through the Immigration Station in many ways, with tickets, trunks and hand baggage, with food, sometimes getting milk heated for a baby, or "minding" little children while parents look for their trunks; telegraph or telephone to relatives or friends, give information of many sorts, expediting the progress through the day's ordeals of those fortunate enough to pass without detention.

As for those who are detained and designated for "special inquiry," our duties in their behalf are more complicated and often difficult and sad. Appeals must be written in many cases. Where the exclusion is mandatory, we have special opportunity for the specifically pastoral and consolatory offices in presence of bitter disappointment and sometimes heart-broken sorrow. Many are the physical needs also, of the detained, and those to be deported; indeed, the only limitation on service of this sort is the worker's time and strength. There is clothing to supply for those sometimes wretchedly clad, and even barefooted on the cold stone floors, and there are errands to run for many a humble requirement. Then there is the often sad office of messenger between the sick in the immigrant hospital and their relatives detained on the main island, and sometimes a burial to conduct when the entrance to the land

of hope has been shadowed by some dear one's death. For some time after they have left Ellis Island, we maintain a "follow-up" correspondence with many whom we meet.

### **Ellis Island Committees**

1. Committee on Literature. Mr. Charles Carrol, Rev. G. J. D'Anchise, Miss Martha Troeck, Miss Teresa Fransee.
2. Detained Immigrants. Rev. P. D. Vassileff, Miss A. E. Matthews, Mrs. Athena Marmaroff.
3. Clothing and Supplies. Rev. P. H. Land, Mr. Marmaroff, Miss Fransee, Miss Brys.
4. Hospitals. Miss Martha Troeck, Mrs. Tripp, Mr. D'Anchise.
5. Appeals. Rev. Eliot White, Rev. P. H. Land, Mr. Carbonetto, Mrs. Conversano.
6. Follow-up Committee. Dr. Perry representing the Committee of Six, Rev. P. D. Vassileff, Mrs. Conversano, Mrs. Tripp.
7. Religious Meetings and Entertainment. Mr. Charles Carrol, Rev. P. H. Land, Rev. Eliot White, Rev. P. D. Vassileff, Mr. Carbonetto, Mrs. Conversano, Miss Matthews, Miss Fransee.

### **The Literature Committee**

#### **I. ORGANIZATION :**

At a meeting held on June 29, 1915, the following resolutions were adopted: (1) The general distribution in the Railroad rooms should be left to the New York Bible Society and the American Tract Society, except in cases where missionaries are especially interested. (2) The present methods of distribution in hospitals and detention rooms are approved. (3) The literature distributed in general should be interdenominational and not of a proselyting nature. (4) The New York Bible Society and the American Tract Society are requested to supply missionaries with literature for distribution in hospitals and detention rooms. (5) The Home Missions Council is requested to supply special tracts for young men and young women with advice for immigrants in general. (6) The Home Missions Council is requested to supply the detained immigrants with daily papers, periodicals and if possible with library books.

#### **II. THE DUTY OF THE COMMITTEE:**

(1) To see that the literature distributed is suitable. (2) If special kind of literature is needed to outline its character. (3) To see that immigrants, both outgoing and detained, are supplied with needed literature. (4) To see that the literature distributed is evangelical and undenominational.

#### **III. LITERATURE IS DISTRIBUTED:**

(1) In the Railroad Rooms. (2) In the Detention Rooms, where immigrants are detained in large numbers, sometimes for months. (3) In the hospitals, where many immigrants are detained and literature is most welcome.

CHARLES A. CARROL,  
Chairman of the Committee.

## The Clothing of the Immigrants at Ellis Island, N. Y.

ONE of the most important items in the work of the missionaries at Ellis Island is the work of providing suitable clothing and shoes for the many aliens detained at the Island. Only by strict adherence to certain principles can the work be a real success. The first of these principles is: Never give an alien that which is beneath his dignity to wear or to use. This may sound strange, but is nevertheless very important. All the aliens, except stowaways and warrant cases, bring their wearing apparel with them. Stowaways are as a rule not very particular. Warrant cases, since they have been in this country and know how to dress, are quite particular. The average alien will not look with favor upon any person who offers him a garment which is worn out, or which he would be ashamed to wear at home. There are other difficulties. Some of the aliens will not accept for instance an old lady's overcoat which was worn 20 years ago. Of such we receive quite an overwhelming number. Others cling strongly to their home fashions and will only accept such things as in some manner correspond to their accustomed styles. The second principle is: to give only to the really needy. Caution is necessary. Some immigrants are greedy, they accept everything which is offered, put it into their hampers, and keep on wearing their old worn-out duds in the hope of receiving still more gifts. *Another* principle is to try and *fit* the alien as well as possible. If the coat or shoes fit him, he will wear them with pleasure and will not feel ridiculous among his fellows.

*Another* principle is to study the social training and tastes of the immigrants and if they need clothes give such things as will make their appearance more respectable. One of the purposes of the clothes department is: to have the alien appear before the Board of Special Inquiry as neat and respectable looking as possible, so that he may be judged as he would look under ordinary circumstances, not as he arrives after a lengthy trip in the steerage. *Another* principle is: not to overlap. Where there is a number of missionaries there is always the danger of overlapping in the distribution of gifts.

At Ellis Island a clothes room of moderate proportions is in use. It is divided into sections, and clothes are kept separately for men, women, and children. Shoes and other things have their proper places. A great deal of valuable time is consumed in sorting out the things which are utterly unfit to give away. We cannot insist too strongly upon the necessity of not sending things which are useless, worn out, or ridiculous. The average alien has

a great deal more knowledge and taste than he is credited with by the donors in various churches. Shoes and clothes ought to be at least in good repair. It would be far better to send fewer and better things, than to send great boxes of indifferent material.

*The greatest needs.* Underwear, suitable to the season of year, shoes of large proportions, men's overcoats, socks and stockings for all, infants' outfits for the newly born, and children's clothes are always welcome and appreciated. Also a lot of other things seldom received, garters, suspenders, toilet articles, such as combs, finecombs, shaving mugs, brushes, etc. All these things are needed every day. The most essential principle of all this work, however, is for the missionary to put heart into it, and not to let the recipient feel that the work is done perfunctorily or with aversion. The missionary sometimes must even show how to make use of the gift and must see to it that the clothes are actually worn, etc. It is a blessed work if properly done.

REV. P. H. LAND,  
Chairman of the Committee.

## **Missionary Work in the Immigrant Hospital, Ellis Island**

THE daily visits of the missionaries in the hospital wards on Ellis Island have proved a great blessing and a help to the immigrants. We are also in various ways helpful to the doctors and nurses in their attentions to the patients, and very often act as an interpreter. The missionaries are particularly responsible for those people in whose languages they are able to converse. They visit these daily, if possible or advisable, but they also pay attention by little gifts and sympathy to the other patients in the ward, and by doing so become friends to everybody. Our first object in visiting new arrivals is to let them know that the relatives who traveled with them on the same ship are waiting for them in the large Immigration Detention Rooms and will not leave before the sick one is discharged from the hospital. This is always welcome news, for most all the poor, helpless patients seem to be under the impression that their friends have left them when separated from them by the doctors. After a little explanation and comforting words, we leave (if advisable) some good literature with them and promise soon to call again and bring greetings from their loved ones. As they see us talking to other patients, they find confidence and take courage among the strangers, and wait anxiously our return. We visit all the wards in the hospital except the contagious hospital, where the missionaries are allowed only by special permission from the Superintendent or doctors. The missionaries are called upon to supply the patients with the most necessary articles of clothing to those discharged from the hospital, and also to supply many children and adults with shoes and stockings when under treatment for trachoma or any other disease, which does not confine the patients to the bed. They fur-

nish the outfit for new-born infants for which the mothers had no chance to provide, or were too poor to do so. We bring tags, picture books, dolls and other little gifts to the sick and lonesome children. To the adults we carry newspapers and magazines in different languages, books, gospels and tracts. On Christmas we place trees in the different wards and give appropriate presents to all the patients. The missionaries communicate with the relatives or friends of the sick aliens. In case of death they assist in every way possible. Pastors often officiate at the funeral services.

MARTHA M. TROECK,  
Chairman of Hospital Committee.

## Committee on Appeals and Petitions

**W**HEN a case is excluded at Ellis Island an appeal is allowed to the Secretary of Labor in Washington, as a higher "court," except when the exclusion is because of certain contagious disease, mental inferiority and the like.

The missionaries at Ellis Island not infrequently write the appeals, endeavoring to bring out points in the cases which strengthen the appellants' cause.

They also make petitions for hospital treatment for such unappealable cases as sufferers from trachoma, hookworm, etc. This treatment, if allowed by the Secretary of Labor, is at the expense of the aliens' relatives. If the afflicted person is cured, he or she is, if otherwise eligible to land, admitted to the country.

ELIOT WHITE,  
For the Committee.

In the complete working out of this plan the proper method will be for any missionary wishing to file an appeal, to confer with this Committee, and especially so before making an appeal to the Secretary of Labor in Washington. In some instances at least, this will be a protection for the missionary against unwise petitions of friends and relatives.

## Follow-up Committee

**T**HIS Committee is to be the connecting link between the Ports of Entry and the inland work. The missionaries fill out blanks, giving the name and destination of the arriving immigrant. These blanks are given to the Follow-up Committee and duplicates with a letter are forwarded to a pastor or worker in the place of the immigrant's destination with a request that the family be visited, and a reply sent on the postal card enclosed with the letter. In this short period 198 names have been forwarded. It is, however, too soon to measure the value of this work.

MRS. MARIE CONVERSANO,  
For the Committee.



The effectiveness of the work of this Committee necessitates having a list of pastors and workers in the entire country. This will be greatly simplified by the appointment of local interdenominational committees such as have been appointed in several towns and cities. It can be made a most important force in correlating the work of the different Ports of Entry, and strengthening our inland missionary work.

## Committee of Religious Services

**C**OMMISSIONER HOWE having given his consent to the holding of Religious Services, five of these were conducted in the spring and summer of 1915, under the auspices of the missionaries representing the Congregational, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches.

At present the best available hour on Sundays (2.30 to 3.30 p.m.) is occupied usually by a concert, so that the services have been somewhat interfered with. It is hoped, however, soon to meet this difficulty.

E. WHITE,  
For the Committee.

This year frequently the missionaries have met once a week in a prayer service. During the year weekly entertainments have been given with a moving picture outfit provided by the Committee of Six for the detained immigrants.

## Other Societies Working at Ellis Island The New York Bible Society

**A**T Ellis Island our missionaries aim to make it possible for each immigrant to obtain a copy of the Scriptures in his own language. Mr. Jackson has been engaged in this work for over thirty-six years.

Mr. Lods in is familiar with the language and customs of the Lettish, Russian, and Polish people.

At Ellis Island during the year 629 Bibles, 3,047 New Testaments, and 27,510 portions of the Scriptures were distributed.

## American Tract Society

**D**URING the current year at Ellis Island, the American Tract Society has distributed Christian literature in twenty-nine different languages, and a total of 150,270 volumes, booklets, tracts and periodicals. The number of immigrants visited totals 386,595.



MR. ERNEST JACKSON,  
MISSIONARY OF THE NEW YORK BIBLE SOCIETY AT ELLIS ISLAND FOR  
MORE THAN THIRTY-SIX YEARS

## Young Men's Christian Association

**F**IVE port secretaries in America serve the thousands still coming. In Ellis Island, during the year, 7,807 men were helped; 4,302 were given introductions to inland Associations; 1,644 were tied up to relatives and friends, and 250 appeals were made in behalf of the detained. Similar services were rendered men landing in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and San Francisco. The Association has this year found exceptional opportunities for service among men who could neither land nor leave. Port secretaries have assumed the responsibility of landing many of these people, found them employment, and reported regularly to the Immigration Commissioner concerning them.

The Young Women's Christian Association have two workers, one for the New York branch office, and one for the national office. These are not engaged in strictly missionary work. The New York branch frequently sends some of its foreign-speaking workers to Ellis Island for special services. Plans for still greater national and international service may be formulated and adopted.

### The W. C. T. U.

MRS. ATHENA MARMAROFF, missionary at Ellis Island, is under appointment by the National W. C. T. U., though the administration of the work is placed in the hands of New York State. Mrs. Marmaroff was educated at a Congregational Mission School in Monastir, Turkey. She speaks all the languages of the Balkan States.

Mrs. Marmaroff works among Greeks, Roumanians, Bulgarians, Montenegrins and immigrants from other Balkan States. Her work is especially for women and children. During the month of October, 1915, she gave out 3,500 tracts, 150 papers, one Bible, nine Testaments, and 65 Gospels.

The various Hebrew Societies are excellently organized for doing most effective service.

### The Report of Committee on United States Immigration Stations

To the Board of Directors of the *Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America*:

Your Committee is, under our Constitution, in "charge of all matters pertaining to the relation of the Society with the Federal Immigration authorities" and "the work of the Society at the various Immigration Stations."

Accordingly we have during the year kept in close touch, not only with our Ellis Island Bureau but also with the work at the Immigration Stations of Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, conducted by our affiliated organizations at those ports.

The bond of harmony which now exists between the workers at the various ports has been firmly cemented during the year, a fact which has resulted in great benefit to the Jewish Immigrants who sought admission at these ports.

## Societies at Work at Ellis Island

FROM the point of view of effecting some definitely organized plan of cooperation among the various agencies at work at Ellis Island, these agencies fall into four groups:

1. NATIONAL AND PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETIES: Of which there are eleven, accredited with ten missionaries. These include such societies as the Polish National Alliance, the Slavonic Immigrant Society, the Travelers' Aid Society, the Austrian Society of New York, etc.

2. JEWISH SOCIETIES: Three accredited with three workers. The burden of this work falls upon the Hebrew Sheltering and Aid Society, which has six regular workers.

3. CATHOLIC SOCIETIES: Of which there are four, accredited with eight workers, including five priests. Italian immigrants are particularly cared for under this group by the St. Rafael's Society.

### 4. PROTESTANT CHRISTIAN AGENCIES:

*Women's Baptist Home Mission Society*

Missionaries: Miss Martha M. Troeck

Mrs. Marie C. Conversano

*Congregational Home Missionary Society*

Missionary: Rev. P. D. Vassileff

*New York City Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church*

Missionary: Rev. Charles Samuelson

*Methodist Woman's Home Missionary Society*

Missionaries: Miss A. E. Mathews

Immigrant Home: Miss Ellen Stenman

*Woman's Board of Home Missions, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.*

Missionary: Miss Teresa Fransee

*Protestant Episcopal City Mission Society*

Missionaries: Rev. Elliot White

Rev. G. J. D'Anchise

*Board of Domestic Missions of the Reformed Church in America*

Missionary: Rev. Sidney Zandstra

*Board of Home Missions, Reformed Church in the United States*

Missionary: Rev. P. H. Land

*The Lutheran Emigrant House Association (German)* (Connected with the Lutheran General Council), 21 Pearl Street, New York City.

Missionaries: Rev. Fritz O. Evers, Supt.

Mr. Adolph Metshone

*Swedish Lutheran Immigrant Home* (Connected with the Lutheran General Council)

5 Water Street, Missionary Supt., Rev. Axel C. H. Helander.

*Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* (united)  
 410 Grand Avenue, Kenosha, Wis  
 Missionary: Rev. J. J. Kildsig  
 193 9th Street, Brooklyn  
 Missionary: Rev. R. Andersen  
*German Evangelical Lutheran Synod* (Lutheran Immigrant Society)  
 8 State Street, New York City  
 Missionary: Rev. C. H. Restin, Supt.  
*Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, United*  
 Missionary: Rev. T. Aug. Tillehei  
*Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America*  
 Missionary: Rev. P. Peterson  
*Young Men's Christian Association: The International Committee*  
 Workers: Rev. J. D. Marmaroff  
 Mr. A. Carbonetto  
*Young Women's Christian Association: National Board*  
 Miss Mabel Cratty, Gen'l Sec'y  
 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City  
 Worker: Miss Adelaide Currie  
*Women's Christian Temperance Union*  
 Worker: Mrs. Athena Marmaroff  
*American Tract Society, New York City*  
 Missionary: Mr. Charles Carrol  
*New York Bible Society*  
 Missionaries: Mr. Ernest Jackson  
 Rev. Michael Lodsin



**Christmas Celebration**  
**for the Immigrants at Ellis Island, New York**  
 Thursday, December 23, 1915  
 PROGRAMME

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Overture.....                                    | Salvation Army Band           |
| 1. Hymn—"America"                                |                               |
| 2. Invocation .....                              | Rev. Dr. Elliot White         |
| 3. Christmas Song.....                           | Played by the Band            |
| 4. Greeting.....                                 | Commissioner Howe             |
| 5. Christmas Greeting (in Italian).....          | Rev. J. Moretto               |
| 6. Christmas Greeting (in Spanish).....          | Rev. G. J. D'Anchise          |
| 7. Song.....                                     | Polish Children's Choir       |
| 8. Christmas Greeting (in Greek).....            | Rev. J. D. Marmaroff          |
| 9. Christmas Greeting (in Russian).....          | Rev. P. D. Vassileff          |
| 10. Song.....                                    | Bohemian Children's Choir     |
| 11. Christmas Greeting (in Swedish).             |                               |
| 12. Duet.....                                    | Capt. Toft and Dr. Leidzen    |
| 13. Christmas Greeting (in German).....          | Rev. Paul Land                |
| 14. Fantasie.....                                | Played by Salvation Army Band |
| 15. Address (in English).....                    | Rev. Dr. C. P. Tinker         |
| 16. Hymn—"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"     |                               |
| 17. Remarks and benediction by the chairman..... | Rev. Paul Land                |
- Doxology

# Boston Port of Entry

**B**OSTON is the headquarters for the District No. 2, including Portland, Maine, Providence, R. I., New Bedford and Fall River. The immigrant station in Boston is not at all adequate to the needs.

The Commissioner General of Immigration in his report of 1912 quotes from the report of the Commissioner of Immigration at Boston for 1912 as follows: "We are continuing to make the best of the very limited quarters which are occupied as an immigration station in Boston. An effort is made, however, to counterbalance the inadequate conditions by insistence upon the highest standard of care and cleanliness. The conditions at Portland and New Bedford are probably as good as can be expected under the existing circumstances. There is almost a total lack of proper inspection facilities at the growing port of Providence."

In some respects the ports of Boston and Ellis Island are quite closely related. The Massachusetts Immigration Commission found that the conditions at the boats from Boston to New York were very bad indeed. These have been remedied to some extent. This, however, is a very important matter and should have further consideration.

During the past ten years the yearly average number of immigrants arriving in Massachusetts has been 73,383.

Seventeen missionary societies and other organizations have eighteen to twenty workers at this port.

An Immigrant Girls' Home is maintained in East Boston by the Methodist Episcopal Church. This building is well equipped and adequately furnished for its purpose. There are accommodations for lodging about forty-five women and thirty to forty men and a few rooms are provided for families. The Home is located near the wharf of the Cunard Line.

Mrs. A. C. Clark, the superintendent, has been engaged in this work at the Boston port for twenty-seven years. She and Miss Bridgman of the Y. W. C. A., and Miss Brown of the Woman's Baptist Home Mission Society, have been working several years at this port and are highly commended by the authorities for their excellent service.

The Y. M. C. A. has been doing in Boston work corresponding to that of the Travelers' Aid Society. Representatives of the Y. M. C. A. under the direction of Dr. Tupper are also working at this port.

Excellent work is being done here also by the representatives of other societies. Here as elsewhere the work, however, is almost wholly unrelated to the conditions that obtain in New England, and indeed in the immediate vicinity of the entry stations. The workers are now considering a plan for organizing their work similar to that adopted by the missionaries at Ellis Island. It seems now to be a very opportune time to effect a good organization for the port work in New England.

The entire field of this district presents some problems that can, without doubt, be finally solved and the proper solution of which would result in very large gain in the work among the immigrants in the entire New England region.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL  
IMMIGRANT GIRLS' HOME,  
EAST BOSTON, MASS.

## Missionaries and Workers at the Boston Immigration Station

Methodist Episcopal Immigrants' Home, Marginal Street, East Boston. In charge of Mrs. A. C. Clark.

Baptist Home Missionary Society, by Miss Mathilda Brown.

Congregational Missionary Society, Rev. Oscar Lindergren.

Swedish Home, Sailors' Boarding House, 111 Webster Street, East Boston.

Swedish Lutheran Society, Rev. A. F. Seastrand. Home, Boarding House for Sailors, Henry Street, East Boston.

Norwegian-Danish Home, 46 Cedar Street, Roxbury.

Rev. C. F. Wurl, a German and Scandinavian worker in connection with his church in East Boston.  
Young Men's Christian Association, Mr. M. G. Tupper.  
Young Women's Christian Association, Miss Bridgman.  
Travelers' Aid, Miss Ogilvie.  
Salvation Army, 8 East Brookline Street, Boston.  
North American Civic League, two to four workers.  
Council of Jewish Women, Mrs. Sternberg.  
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Abram Alpert.  
St. Vincent de Paul Society, office, Chardon Street, Boston. Miss Hayes among English speaking peoples and Mrs. Haberstroh among German speaking aliens. (Grey Nuns.)  
Polish National Alliance Immigration Aid Society. By John Romaszewicz.  
Boston Italian Immigrant Society, Boston. Under direction of Miss Eleanor Colleton and Miss Cardolino.





# Philadelphia Port of Entry

## IMMIGRATION STATION

**T**HERE are two stations for landing the immigrants, one at the foot of Washington Street; the other at the foot of Vine Street. Immigrants are examined at these two stations. Those who are detained for any reason are taken by boat to Gloucester City where the new station has been built. In Gloucester they have a very well-equipped building with offices for administration, sleeping rooms for detained immigrants, dining room and small rooms for special hospital cases. Until the new hospital is built, most of the hospital patients are sent to different hospitals in the city. There is also here a pier containing three acres on which is to be built a Receiving Station to allow all immigrants to be examined at Gloucester. The equipment of the building at Gloucester in every particular is modern and of the very best. The dining room especially, is fitted up in the very best approved style; it is large enough to allow two hundred to eat at one time. The walls and floor are cement; the tables and seats are metal, so that the entire room can be washed out with hose, as the floor slopes toward a drain in which is carried off all the water.

## Missionaries and Workers

Twenty different societies are represented at this port by missionaries or agents. Fourteen of these may be called strictly religious societies. The work is carried on here about the same as at Boston and Ellis Island. There is no definite plan for following up the work after the immigrants leave Philadelphia. Those who remain in Philadelphia are visited as far as possible and their addresses are given to the workers of the nearest church or mission. The Episcopal and Lutheran workers usually send the names and addresses of those immigrants who are connected with their churches to the pastors in the towns or cities to which these immigrants are going.

The Lutheran Church has three representatives. They work together in supplementing the work of each other.

Under the direction of Mr. Demberg, the Young Men's Christian Association Immigration Bureau conducts the work at this station in the same manner as at other ports. Similar conditions obtain here as at the other ports, namely, that the missionaries are doing a most excellent work and in a very real sense, the most practical and helpful work that is being done with the arriving immigrant. The same need also is apparent here as elsewhere that the work should be organized in such way as to bring it into vital touch with the immigrant work in various Ports of Entry, and in close relation with the missionary work in our towns and cities.

The Methodist Episcopal Church maintains a Deaconess Home at 611 Vine Street. Miss Ford of the Methodist Church, and Miss Staake of the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Levins of the Philadelphia Bible Society, have been engaged in the missionary service at the Philadelphia Port for many years.

The Philadelphia Bible Society distributed 50,479 books printed in fifty different languages.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union, through the work of Miss M. L. Grunninger, during the year met ninety vessels and distributed nearly 40,000 pages of literature.

The Philadelphia Baptist City Mission Society carried on their port missionary work through the services of their city missionaries.

Mr. Levins, missionary of the Philadelphia Bible Society, related the following incident:

"I wish I could picture to you the dying of an immigrant at the Immigrant Station. On one side knelt the Matron, and on the other side Miss Ford, a Methodist deaconess, and before him an interpreter reading from a Testament in his own language. The Matron held her hands in the attitude of prayer, the dying man smiled and nodded his head yes, indicating that he understood her and would pray. This was the last comfort the dying stranger received—a Jew reading our Master's Words to him and the prayers of two Christian women."

At a Conference of the workers and of the missionaries and others interested in the work at Philadelphia, it was voted that as soon as practicable the Committee of Six should consider a definite plan for organizing the missionary work at the Philadelphia Port. There was a great desire for unity and efficiency in this service. There was unanimous agreement that it would be wise, if possible, to organize the work at this time so as to be definitely prepared for effective service, and to meet whatever conditions may arise in the immigration problem in the near future. This Conference also approved the proposition to appoint in each port city a Local Advisory Committee through which the missionary work could be supervised.

The greatest decrease last year (June 30, 1915) was in non-skilled or miscellaneous workers.

	1914.	1915.
Farm Laborers .....	288,053	27,723
Laborers .....	226,407	48,351
Servants .....	144,409	39,774

Of the number admitted in 1899-1900, sixty-per cent. settled in five states, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Massachusetts and New Jersey.

# The Philadelphia Immigration Station

## Missionaries and Workers

- Lutheran Women of the East Pennsylvania Synodical Society: Miss Marietta Staake.
- Women's Home Mission Society: Methodist Episcopal Church, Miss Ford.
- Philadelphia Baptist City Mission Society: Workers in the City Mission.
- Swedish Baptist Church: Rev. Swenson.
- Protestant Episcopal Church, St. Paul's Mission: Mr. Frank Longshore.
- Protestant Episcopal Church: Rev. Weinstein.
- Norwegian Church: Rev. Halvor Midtbo.
- Lutheran Church of the Mission Syndicate: Rev. A. H. Winter.
- Pennsylvania Bible Society: Mr. James Levins.
- Immigrant Missionary of the General Council of the Lutheran Church: Rev. Erich Saul.
- Young Women's Christian Temperance Union: Miss Mary Grunninger.
- Young Men's Christian Association: Mr. Denberg.
- North American Civic League for Immigrants: Mr. W. Hartzel.
- Council of Jewish Women: Mrs. E. Shevall.
- Association for Protection of Jewish Immigrants: Dr. H. D. Pearlman.
- Catholic Immigration Society: Mrs. Brown.
- Polish Society: Mr. Dutkiewitz.
- Friendly Sons of St. Patrick: Mr. Thos. D. Ferguson.
- Society for Italian Immigrants: Miss Jennie Lanzetta.
- Catholic Temperance Society: Mrs. Smith.
- Alliance Help for Lithuanian Immigrants: Mrs. Susanna Baranowsky.

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## Emigration Statistics

Emigration for a period of years is about one-third. From 1908-1910 inclusive; 81 per cent. had been in America not over five years; 14.7 not over ten years.

Of those coming to this country from 1890-1900 only 70 per cent. were found here at the end of that period.

In 1899-1909 there were more than 8,000,000 immigrants admitted. Of this number 1,013,974 were under fourteen years of age, and 6,786,506 were between 14-44, and 412,554 were over forty-five.

## Present Responsibility for Future Opportunity

THE problem of restricting immigration that for many years has been puzzling the politicians, reformers and various civic and philanthropic and religious societies and national organizations, has been settled for the time, at least, by the European War.

The danger is that the Christian Church shall regard this breathing spell as a time for the relaxation of energy. Such an attitude is wholly contrary to the real meaning of this hour and does not at all respond to its earnest offer of a splendid opportunity for effective service and permanent achievement. It is the very best time we have had for several years to get together, to study conditions, to canvass fields, to discover needs, and develop methods of work.

It has been demonstrated that the scope of this work can be enlarged, and its effectiveness increased by organizing its activities, so that this branch of our missionary service shall represent the Christian love and life operating with a spirit wholly interdenominational and non-sectarian through a body of workers, inspired by the same motive, working by a common method, and moving toward a well-defined goal. Thus our Ports of Entry missionary service would be appreciated at its true value, and be recognized by Government authorities and other organizations as a most important and efficient factor, and be given the place it deserves in cooperation with the federal, civic, educational and philanthropic agencies, working in any comprehensive service for welcoming and protecting the Immigrant.

For the full consummation of this scheme, there must be clear vision of the far-reaching scope of the Immigrant work and adequate realization of the vast opportunity and unlimited possibilities for achievement in this service. There must be a deep sense of responsibility and keen appreciation of the price to be paid in order to realize the fulfilment of the vision. There must be a willingness to let go not a few denominational and perhaps personal preferences, and a readiness to sacrifice some things that have been held quite dear.

It is the hour of a great responsibility devolving upon the Christian Church to discharge her obligation to create such a spirit of genuine fellowship between Americans "New" and "Old" that there shall be established throughout our land a Christian brotherhood that knows "neither border, nor breed, nor birth," even the gracious and masterful "Brotherhood of the Sons of God."

For the Purpose of Examining and Inspecting Immigrants our country is divided into twenty-two Immigration Stations with headquarters at

Montreal, P. Q., Canada  
 Canadian border and Canadian seaports

Boston, Mass. Subports of Portland and New Bedford

Ellis Island, New York Harbor  
 New York and New Jersey; immigration matters only

17 State Street, New York. Chinese matters only

Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Substations of Pittsburg, Chester, and Wilmington

Baltimore, Md. Subports of Annapolis and Washington

Norfolk, Va.  
 Subports of Newport News, Wilmington, and Charleston

Jacksonville, Fla.  
 Subports of Savannah, Brunswick, Tampa, Miami, Key West, Pensacola, and Mobile

New Orleans, La. Subports of Gulfport and Pascagoula

Galveston, Texas  
 Subports of Port Arthur and Corpus Christi

Cleveland, Ohio  
 Substations at Toledo and Cincinnati

Chicago, Ill.

Minneapolis, Minn.

St. Louis, Mo.

Denver, Colo. Substation at Salt Lake City

Helena, Mont. Substation at Havre, Mont.

Seattle, Wash.  
 Subports of Tacoma, Port Townsend, and Olympia; substations of Spokane and Walla Walla

Portland, Ore. Subport of Astoria

San Francisco, Cal.

Ketchikan, Alaska. Substations of Skagway and Nome

San Juan, P. R. Subport of Ponce

Honolulu, Hawaii, including all ports

El Paso, Texas  
 Subports of Nogales, Douglas, Waco, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Laredo, Hidalgo, and Brownsville; substations of San Antonio, Tucson, and Fort Worth

Southern California: port of San Diego and substations of Los Angeles and Andrade

## Immigration Statistics

From 1820-1915 Immigrant Aliens came to this country....	32,354,124
During the year ending June 30, 1914.....	1,218,480
This was the largest number except in 1907, when the number was.....	1,285,349
Year ending June 30, 1915.....	326,700
Immigrants returning last year.....	204,074
Immigrants deported last year.....	2,564
	206,638
Net gain of the year ending June 30, 1915.....	120,052

## Immigrant Aliens for the Year Ending June 30, 1915

	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Departed.</i>
<i>Atlantic Ports:</i>		
New York, N. Y.....	178,416	150,014
Boston, Mass.....	15,983	9,033
Philadelphia, Pa.....	7,114	7,052
Baltimore, Md.....	3,017	335
Canadian Atlantic Ports.....	5,040	2,448
Portland, Me.....	115	95
New Bedford, Mass.....	827	225
Providence, R. I.....	2,536	1,984
Newport News, Va.....	192	.....
Norfolk, Va.....	30	.....
Savannah, Ga.....	13	.....
Miami, Fla.....	1,154	843
Key West, Fla.....	762	2,595
Other Atlantic.....	27	.....
<i>Ports of Gulf of Mexico:</i>		
Tampa, Fla.....	1,637	9
Pensacola, Fla.....	4	.....
Mobile, Ala.....	61	2
New Orleans, La.....	1,604	800
Galveston, Tex.....	2,272	119
Other Gulf.....	35	.....
<i>Pacific Ports:</i>		
San Francisco, Cal.....	8,055	3,090
Portland, Ore.....	93	.....
Seattle, Wash.....	2,613	748
Canadian Pacific Ports.....	246	250
Alaska.....	485	.....
<i>Border Stations:</i>		
Canadian Border.....	81,382	22,922
Mexican Border.....	9,003	211
<i>Insular Possessions:</i>		
Honolulu, Hawaii.....	2,066	475
Porto Rico.....	928	824
Total .....	326,700	204,074

## Occupations of Admitted Immigrants

	1914.	1915.
Professional .....	14,601	12,279
Skilled Laborers .....	173,208	55,638
Miscellaneous .....	710,456	141,843

# Immigrants 1914-1915

Immigrant Aliens came in the years

to	1914.	1915.
Alabama .....	1,450	430
Alaska .....	886	693
Arizona .....	3,886	2,100
Arkansas .....	399	147
California .....	32,089	20,116
Colorado .....	4,493	1,339
Connecticut .....	33,192	6,620
Delaware .....	1,559	245
District of Columbia.....	1,913	1,087
Florida .....	6,471	4,810
Georgia .....	778	356
Hawaii .....	5,622	2,934
Idaho .....	1,976	1,226
Illinois .....	105,811	19,062
Indiana .....	14,727	2,146
Iowa .....	9,307	3,407
Kansas .....	2,520	744
Kentucky .....	944	268
Louisiana .....	2,268	1,451
Maine .....	7,278	4,401
Maryland .....	8,944	1,883
Massachusetts .....	93,200	27,482
Michigan .....	49,639	17,438
Minnesota .....	22,232	9,115
Mississippi .....	500	138
Missouri .....	13,781	2,743
Montana .....	6,070	3,454
Nebraska .....	5,056	1,388
Nevada .....	1,171	387
New Hampshire .....	7,313	2,832
New Jersey .....	62,495	11,248
New Mexico .....	895	561
New York .....	344,663	95,028
North Carolina .....	463	267
North Dakota .....	4,313	3,290
Ohio .....	74,615	9,341
Oklahoma .....	946	387
Oregon .....	5,547	2,629
Pennsylvania .....	184,438	24,596
Philippine Islands .....	13	16
Porto Rico .....	1,203	812
Rhode Island .....	12,569	3,621
South Carolina .....	260	132
South Dakota .....	1,754	1,095
Tennessee .....	846	306
Texas .....	14,630	9,447
Utah .....	3,387	1,296
Vermont .....	3,503	1,928
Virginia .....	1,959	855
Washington .....	20,061	13,093
West Virginia .....	12,399	2,030
Wisconsin .....	20,660	3,850
Wyoming .....	1,377	430
Unknown .....	.....	.....
Total .....	1,218,480	326,700

## Departed 1914-1915

Emigrant Aliens departed in the years from	1914.	1915.
Alabama .....	277	175
Alaska .....	78	40
Arizona .....	560	606
Arkansas .....	44	25
California .....	8,049	7,063
Colorado .....	1,079	607
Connecticut .....	7,571	4,995
Delaware .....	370	141
District of Columbia .....	405	269
Florida .....	1,961	3,555
Georgia .....	121	89
Hawaii .....	747	561
Idaho .....	270	195
Illinois .....	23,637	11,682
Indiana .....	4,544	1,331
Iowa .....	1,469	755
Kansas .....	421	110
Kentucky .....	178	99
Louisiana .....	531	369
Maine .....	673	665
Maryland .....	1,313	999
Massachusetts .....	15,983	14,612
Michigan .....	10,809	5,524
Minnesota .....	3,402	1,504
Mississippi .....	47	21
Missouri .....	2,744	1,426
Montana .....	723	532
Nebraska .....	520	280
Nevada .....	288	168
New Hampshire .....	1,545	978
New Jersey .....	13,983	7,108
New Mexico .....	320	206
New York .....	76,017	67,016
North Carolina .....	73	47
North Dakota .....	405	114
Ohio .....	16,472	7,640
Oklahoma .....	215	71
Oregon .....	907	583
Pennsylvania .....	55,217	27,499
Philippine Islands .....	11	20
Porto Rico .....	969	849
Rhode Island .....	2,821	2,566
South Carolina .....	43	33
South Dakota .....	183	60
Tennessee .....	108	60
Texas .....	927	371
Utah .....	965	718
Vermont .....	516	483
Virginia .....	330	233
Washington .....	2,638	1,491
West Virginia .....	3,357	2,617
Wisconsin .....	4,731	1,824
Wyoming .....	350	167
Unknown .....	31,421	22,922
Total .....	303,338	204,074









